

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 10-13, 15-17, 43, 44, 47, and 48 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 1, 6, 13, 43, and 48 have been amended, and claims 3 and 7 have been cancelled.

In the office action of October 20, 2003, the Examiner indicated the allowability of claims 9, 14, 16, and 45. In the Advisory action of March 10, 2004, the Examiner indicated that claim 1 did not include all the limitations of the intervening claims. Accordingly, the amendment to claim 1 has been rewritten to include all the limitations of claim 9 and intervening claims 3, 7, and 8. Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance, together with dependent claim 2-4, 6, 7, 10-13, 15-17, 47, and 48.

Claim 6 has been amended to depend from claim 1.

Claim 43 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 45, which is accordingly cancelled. Claim 43 and dependent claim 44 are now in condition for allowance.

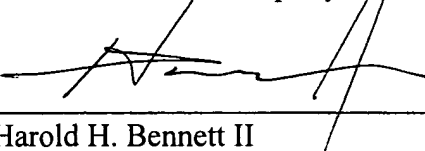
In view of the above recited amendments, the rejections under 35 USC §§102 and 103 are moot.

Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. In the event the Examiner finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is urged to contact applicant's undersigned representative at (206) 622-4900 in order to expeditiously resolve prosecution of this application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

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